



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
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# PRESS RELEASE

December 1, 2003

**RE: UNITED STATES v. LEMAR JONES, et al.**

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today that 20 year old Lemar Jones of Cheektowaga, NY, pled guilty in federal district court to a two count Information charging him with the armed robbery of the Jamestown Savings Bank on December 9, 2002, and for carrying a firearm during his commission of the robbery. Jones and a 19 year old accomplice entered the bank wielding a drawn firearm. Both men wore hooded sweatshirts draped over their heads in order to partially conceal their identities. While Lemar Jones held a 9 mm handgun pointed directly at bank personnel, the other robber vaulted over the counter and scooped up nearly \$14,000 in cash.

Jones and the accomplice fled from the bank to a waiting, late-model luxury car that had been stolen the previous evening in Buffalo. The getaway vehicle, which was driven by one of two female accomplices, sped away to an apartment building location in Jamestown. After fleeing to the apartment house of the local Jamestown resident, Jones and his other accomplices counted out the robbery proceeds. After receiving smaller

shares of the money, both women boarded a commercial bus to Buffalo, while Jones and the other man waited at the Jamestown apartment until nightfall. After nightfall arrived, the pair arranged with the Jamestown resident to drive them back to the Buffalo area.

Jones is scheduled to be sentenced in April before Judge William H. Skretny. He faces a term of imprisonment of up to 20 years, along with an additional 7 year mandatory minimum term of imprisonment for the firearms possession. The prison terms will be run consecutively.

One of the two female accomplices, Jazzmin Johnson, who had a minor role in the robbery, has already pled to a misdemeanor charge of bank larceny. The other co-defendants are also expected to enter guilty pleas.

The Jamestown office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Peter Ahearn, led the investigation with assistance from the Jamestown Police Department, under the direction of Police Chief William MacLaughlin, the New York State Police, under the direction of Major Thomas Askey and the Chauttaqua County Sheriff's Department, Sheriff Joseph Gerace.

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